



**Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center Advisory Board
RECOMMENDATION 20230301-6**

Date: 3-1-2023

Subject: Request for permanent funding of \$275,000 for the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center's Academia Cuauhtli program for the FY2024 budget.

Motioned By: Member Hilario "Larry" Amaro

Seconded By: Member Gerardo Gandy

Recommendation

The Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Advisory Board (MACC) recommends the City Council direct the City Manager to take the following actions and to allocate additional funds for the FY 2024. Recommendation to City Council to ask for \$275,000 for programming for Academia Cuauhtli to be added permanently to the ESB MACC's budget on an annual basis.

Description of Recommendation to Council

1. Allocate \$275,000 annually and permanently to provide operating budget for the Academia Cuauhtli Program at the ESB MACC.

Rationale:

Academia Cuauhtli demonstrably continues the deep, intense, and intergenerational support for the ESB MACC as a partner in fulfilling its mission, and by protecting and supporting the community with the same deep commitment that enabled the construction of the ESB MACC in the first place, helping to make it a true incubator for future artisans, artists, writers, and community activists for culture and the arts.

Since its founding in 2013, Academia Cuauhtli (originated by Nuestro Grupo, community-based volunteers) was established at the ESB MACC as a free Saturday culture and language revitalization academy for elementary school children and their parents, with curriculum focused on indigeneity, social justice, social history, traditional arts, and danza Mexica and since July 2014, Academia Cuauhtli has served as an official educational enterprise of the ESB MACC.

Academia Cuauhtli was instituted as an integral part of the ESB-MACC and promotes its mission further to instill in our children and their families a deep appreciation for the arts, social justice, and in action projects to preserve and develop our cultural resources, focusing on the ESB MACC and other Latino cultural arts institutions.

Academia Cuauhtli, administered through an Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Austin, Austin Independent School District (AISD), and Nuestro Grupo embraces and fulfills ESB MACC's mission of collaborative engagement by involving personnel and students from all participating entities into a holistic team which advances the mission of the ESB-MACC and all engaged parties.

Academia Cuauhtli fulfills its mission by serving as a means for the comprehensive advancement of the students and their parents, by providing a learning and supportive environment for education, social, and economic needs through the expansion of the parental involvement enterprise.

Vote

For: Chair Endi Silva, Vice Chair David Goujon, Member Hilario “Larry” Amaro, Member Gerardo Gandy, Member Greg Gonzalez, Member Angelica Navarro

Against:

Abstain: Member Litza Gonzales

Absent: Member Ricardo Maga Rojas, Member Arthur Navarro, Member Tomas Salas

Attest: Michelle Rojas, Advisory Board Liaison
